**Non-inclusion of some castes in the list of OBCs**

2235. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL :

SHRI B. J. PANDA :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some castes in Orissa have not been included in the OBC category in the Centre's list where the State Government has declared the same caste as backward;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some castes with equal status and origin from Orissa have been included in the Centre's list; and

(d) if so, whether Government have assessed the social implications of this injustice, which has divided the people on caste lines, creating socio-cultural and other problems in future?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) Certain castes/communities, which are declared as backward by the State Government of Orissa, have not been included in the Central Lists of Backward Classes for Orissa.

(b) to (d) The Supreme Court in its judgment in the case of Indira Sawhney and others *vs.* Union of India and others directed the Government of India, each of the State Government and the Administrations of Union Territories to constitute a permanent body for examining requests for inclusion and complaints of over-inclusion and under-inclusion of backward classes in the respective lists of OBCs. These bodies (Commissions) function independently and have their own procedure for examining the requests for inclusion of castes/sub-castes in the lists of Backward Classes.

Accordingly, the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) has been set up under the National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993 which examines requests for inclusion of any class of citizen as a backward class in the lists and hears complaints of over-inclusion or under-inclusion of any backward class in such lists and tenders such advice to the Central Government, as it deems appropriate. The Commission has formulated guidelines for consideration of requests which include criteria covering social, educational

and economic aspects of backwardness. The Commission also considers the views of the respective State Government and the representatives of other interested parties before recommending any caste/community for inclusion in the Central Lists of OBCs or otherwise. Only those communities, which fulfil the above criteria are recommended by the NCBC for inclusion in the Central Lists of OBCs. The Government of India decides cases for inclusion/amendment in the Central Lists of Backward Classes on the basis of advice tendered by NCBC.

In the first phase, the castes/communities were included in the Central Lists of OBCs on the basis of commonality *i.e.*, the castes/communities which were found common both in the Mandal Commission Report and State/UT list of backward classes. Thereafter, the cases of inclusion/amendment in the Central Lists of OBCs have been recommended by the NCBC. After thorough examination of each case in the light of procedure laid down by the Commission. Therefore, the question of injustice to any community does not arise.

**Increase in unit cost under National Scheme for Scavengers**

2236. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR :
SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN :
SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the unit cost from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 5,00,000 under National Scheme for Scavengers and their dependents;

(b) if so, the number of units sanctioned in the revised rates to the States, togetherwith the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) how many units have been requested by the Government of Karnataka for the year 2000-2001 ?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR.SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) At present, assistance is provided for projects costing upto Rs. 50,000 under the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents. No decision has been taken to increase the unit cost of projects eligible for assistance to Rs. 5,00,000.